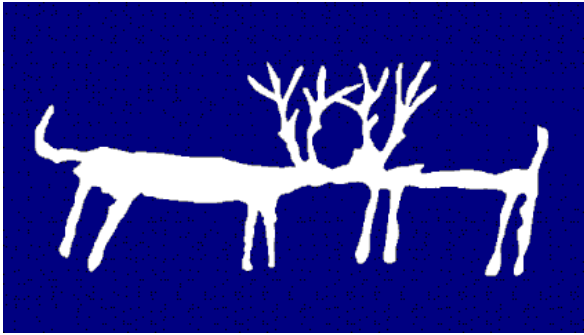


CONSERVATION CROSSFEED

Notes from AFCEE/ECC
January 2001



Rock Art Trademarked.

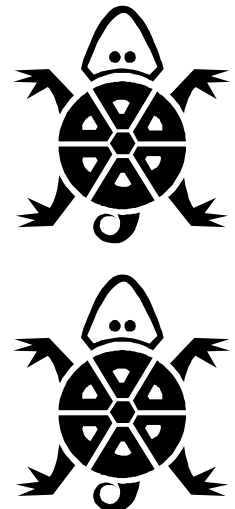
The Canadian government recently approved applications for trademark rights on ten petroglyphs on Vancouver Island. The Snuneymuxw First Nation applied for trademark protections because they believe the petroglyph images are sacred and should not be copied. The tribe now owns the images and will control their distribution. Similar trademark and copyright applications are being considered on rock art and other images in the USA from American Indian tribes and Native Alaskan organizations.



Did you know? Section 8 of the Archaeological Resources Protection Act (ARPA) provides for rewards up to \$500 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of archaeological vandals, looters, and others engaged in the destruction of archaeological sites on Federal lands. Criminal and civil penalties and fines provide these reward funds. Other rewards, from law enforcement operations funds, are often offered by Federal agencies for information at crucial stages of cases, regardless of whether the information leads to a conviction. Spreading the news about rewards to personnel at installations with looting and vandalism problems might be effective in fighting such crimes.

The Revised Section 106 Regulations were published in the Federal Register on 12 Dec 00 and became effective 11 Jan 01.

The revised regulations incorporate important changes responding to public comments, however the core elements of the Section 106 process have been retained. The objective of the Jun 99 revisions was to facilitate major streamlining improvements to the Section 106 regulations. The Dec 00 revised regulations remove operational impediments in the Section 106 review process and clarify certain provisions and terms. There were also a number of technical and informational edits made throughout the revised rule. To download the revised regulations go to --
<http://www.achp.gov/newsregs12-00.html>



For Cultural Resource issues, contact:

Dr. James Wilde (DSN 240-6546 or james.wilde@hqafcee.brooks.af.mil)

Julia Cantrell (DSN 240-3515 or julia.cantrell@hqafcee.brooks.af.mil)

CONSERVATION CROSSFEED

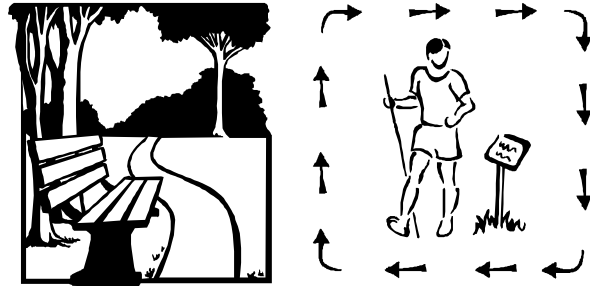
Notes from AFCEE/ECC
January 2001

HAVE YOU EVER . . . needed a design guide for constructing nature trails? Sometimes we are hard-pressed to come up with Natural Resource-based, outdoor recreation opportunities.

The following site is a complete guide to the design and building of nature trails
<http://www.extension.umn.edu/distribution/naturalresources/DD6371.html>

Many of you have nature trails at your base already but we all need to explore ways to expand the use of our resource opportunities.

Gerry Johnson, Natural Resources Manager,
Fairchild AFB WA.



Policy regarding controlled propagation of Listed Species:

On 20 Sep 2000, the Departments of Interior (USFWS) and Commerce (NOAA) jointly issued policy addressing the role of controlled propagation in the conservation and recovery of species listed as endangered or threatened under the ESA. This policy provides guidance and established consistency for use of controlled propagation as a component of a listed species recovery strategy. Final policy is effective 20 Oct 2000.

(<http://frwebgate4.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/waisgate.cgi?WAISdocID=167469918+0+0+0&WAISaction=retrieve>)

GONE TO THE BIRDS

Mike Cornelius, HQ AFMC/CE Natural Resources Manager

On 11 Jan 01, President Clinton issued a landmark E.O. requiring Federal agencies to avoid or minimize the negative impact of their actions on migratory birds, and to take active steps to protect these birds and their habitat.

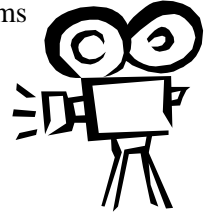
This E.O. directs each Federal agency taking actions having or likely to have a negative impact on migratory bird populations to work with the U.S.F.W.S. to develop an agreement to conserve those birds. The protocols developed by this consultation are intended to guide future agency regulatory actions and policy decisions; renewal of permits, contracts or other agreements; and the creation of or revisions to land management plans. In addition to avoiding or minimizing impacts to migratory bird populations, agencies will be expected to take reasonable steps that include restoring and enhancing habitat, preventing or abating pollution affecting birds, and incorporating migratory bird conservation into agency planning processes whenever possible.

For full text on this E.O. visit DENIX.

CONSERVATION CROSSFEED

Notes from AFCEE/ECC
January 2001

Hollywood comes to Air Force Natural Resources! Following on last year's success of the *Crocodile Hunter* programs on Eglin AFB (*Forces of Nature* and *Wildlife in Combat*), Steve Irwin visited Luke AFB this year and produced another program that highlights the natural resources program of the Goldwater Range. That program (*Sidewinders of Arizona*) aired initially in November 2000 and will most likely be repeated in 2001. We can provide copies of these programs to anyone wishing them. These are great programs to highlight our overall natural resources conservation program. Also in November 2000, a segment of the Public Broadcasting Service's *Trailside Make Your Own Adventure* program was filmed at Barksdale AFB, Louisiana. The program, which should air next year on PBS, features a hike through the Barksdale 20,000-acre forests with Bruce Holland, the base natural resources manager.



And let us not forget, Dr. Robert Sargent from Robins AFB GA, he was interviewed by the Washington Post for "pesky pigs". Here's the "rest of the story" . . .

HOOFED EXOTICS

In late June Robins' housing residents became the unwilling hosts of hooved visitors in the night. Small herds of feral hogs, usually consisting of four or five animals, were becoming a common sight in front yards. Newly planted turf and recently established azalea beds were the most popular targets for them. One resident's lawn was plowed on eight different nights over a 14-day period. Within two weeks hogs were rooting up turf on the golf course, and in another two weeks they were making their presence known along the fringe of the airfield.

Feral hog problems are nothing new at Robins. The forested floodplain east of the base is excellent habitat for them. However, during periods of significant rainfall rising water often forces hogs onto high ground—meaning the housing areas, golf course, and, worst of all, the airfield. This problem occurred during the 500-year flood of 1994, and again during a brief wet spell in 1998. What made this recent bout with hogs so unusual and unexpected was that Robins was in the midst of a severe drought. Unusual that is, until their feeding pattern, and the food item they were focusing on, was identified. Basically, hogs were rooting up and wallowing in areas that contained irrigation systems. The moist lawns and landscape beds were magnets for earthworms, and this was the principal item in the stomachs of the hogs that were harvested. A sudden increase in sightings of large mammals during a drought actually isn't unusual. In New Jersey and in the Southwest there have been many recent reports of black bears seen in the center of urban areas

Our hog control effort at Robins consisted of a three-pronged approach. First, we placed box traps near heavily used trails in the forest. Since we didn't have a supply of traps, we arranged contracts with volunteers that could provide them. We also acquired traps from the USDA. In the latter case, we provided blood samples to the USDA from every hog we captured, to be used in a wildlife disease survey. Because the wooded area east of housing and the golf course is open for archery hunting in the fall, we decided to institute an early archery hunt. Finally, for the most serious problems we made arrangements with the USDA's Wildlife Services office to get their assistance (i.e., shooting hogs at night).

This plan so far has been successful, thanks to the volunteer trappers, and also because of recent rainfall. Feral hogs are capable of doubling their population density in a matter of months, so it's unlikely that we will ever be completely rid of the problem. Keeping this hazard in check will require a continuous control effort, as well as an aggressive public education effort. Concerning the latter issue, we focused on making base residents aware of the problem, including the fact that feral hogs are an exotic and are not considered to be wildlife, via the base newspaper. As for the airfield problem, we are now working on a design for completing the existing airfield fence, which currently only encloses three sides of the field.

CONSERVATION CROSSFEED

Notes from AFCEE/ECC
January 2001

CONFERENCES/WORKSHOPS:

16-20 Mar 01 -- North American Wildlife and Natural Resources Conference, Washington DC.

18-23 Mar 2001 -- National Military Fish and Wildlife Assoc. Annual Meeting, Washington DC. Check out their website for more details:

<http://www.nmfw.org/>

17 Apr 01 -- USAF Cultural Resource Managers, New Orleans, LA

18-22 Apr 01 -- Society for American Archeologist Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA

1-3 May 01 -- Urban Wildlife Management Conference, Arbor Day Farm/Lied Conference Center, Nebraska City, Nebraska.

www.arborday.org/programs/conferencereg21.html

13-17 Sep 01 -- Society of American Foresters, Denver CO.

17-21 Sep 01 -- DoD Forestry Workshop, AF Academy CO.

The special training session at the NMFWA Meeting this year is:
Wetland Grant Proposals!!

This workshop on preparing Wetland Grant Proposals will be offered on 18 Mar Sunday afternoon from 1:00 - 3:00 pm -- There is NO CHARGE!!!

As in years past, this Annual Meeting is a great opportunity to network with other NR managers across the DoD and learn new information and share innovative management techniques.

And don't miss the AF Breakout session on Friday morning. Currently there are no fieldtrips scheduled but if you have suggestions, please contact Dan Friese (DSN 240-3823) or Mary Anderson (DSN 240-3808).

17 April 2001, Meeting of USAF Cultural Resource Managers, 0800-1700 hrs, New Orleans Marriott or Le Meridien Hotel, New Orleans, LA. In conjunction with the Society for American Archaeology 66th Annual Meeting, 18-22 April, 2001, New Orleans Marriott and Le Meridien Hotels, New Orleans. USAF meeting participants are not required to register for the SAA meetings. Participants can register for lodging, however, at the Marriott or Le Meridien hotels for the special SAA (\$136/single; \$164 double) or US government rates. Cutoff for SAA rate registration is 15 Mar 2001. Marriott 1-800-654-3990; Le Meridien 1-504-525-6500. For more information contact Dr. James Wilde DSN 240-6546. (james.wilde@hqafcee.brooks.af.mil)

The Air Force will be official host for the 2001 DoD Forestry Workshop, tentatively scheduled to be held 17-21 September at the Air Force Academy. If desired, attendees will have the opportunity to also attend the Society of American Foresters convention nearby in Denver from 13-17 September. Contact Kevin Porteck, DSN 240-5631 if you would like to volunteer ideas or services to the workshop.



Urban Wildlife Management Conference (Mike Cornelius, HQ AFMC)

As our use of land for non-native and non-agricultural purposes increases, traditional wildlife habitats are lost. As a result, wildlife managers, ecologists, city planners, landscape architects, and community leaders must find ways to create and maintain ecologically significant habitats in and around urban areas. This conference demonstrates management opportunities for urban habitats from small city parks in urban centers to large subdivisions with considerable open space. The roles of urban soils, vegetation, water quality, noise, open space, greenways, habitat, animal communities, and human communities will be discussed.

For more information on any of these articles. Contact HQ AFCEE/ECC, DSN 240-3808